

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 195596
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:MHORNBLOW:KD
APPROVED BY NEA:HSAU DERS --
NEA/AFN - JBISHOP
S/S-O: SGPLDSMITH

-----065258 030348Z /14

R 030137Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS
INFO AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY MADRID

S E C R E T STATE 195596

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH AMBASSADOR'S MEETING WITH ASSISTANT
SECRETARY HAL SAUNDERS (NEA)

REF: PARIS 23785

1. FRENCH AMBASSADOR CALLED ON SAUNDERS JULY 25. IN RE-
SPONSE TO AMBASSADOR'S QUESTIONS ON NORTH AFRICA, SAUNDERS
MADE FOLLOWING POINTS

--WITH REGARD TO MAURITANIA THE MOROCCANS WERE PLAYING
THEIR CARDS CLOSE TO THEIR CHEST. FOR EXAMPLE THE
MOROCCANS DID NOT TELL US THEY KNEW THE MAURITANIANS WERE
SECRET

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PAGE 02 STATE 195596

THINKING OF WITHDRAWING FROM THE SAHARA.

--WHILE SAUNDERS WAS IN RABAT THE ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER
OF MAURITANIA VISITED THE KING. HE REPORTEDLY PROMISED
KING THAT MAURITANIA WOULD CONTINUE TO CONSULT FULLY WITH
MOROCCO ON MAJOR ISSUES.

-- SAUNDERS AND KING ALSO DISCUSSED USE OF F-5'S IN SAHARA. KING SAID HE HAD REMOVED F5S FROM SAHARA BUT THEY REMAIN IN MAURITANIA. MOROCCO WILL AGREE TO MAKE A REQUEST TO THE US FOR AUTHORIZATION TO HAVE THE F-5'S STATIONED IN MAURITANIA. WE WANT TO GET THIS ISSUE BEHIND US SO WE CAN RESUME NORMAL RELATIONS WITH MOROCCO.

-- MOROCCO HAS ALSO INDICATED IT WANTS TWO DOZEN COBRA HELICOPTERS. IF THEY MAKE A FORMAL REQUEST FOR THE HELICOPTERS, WE WILL PROCESS IT AND CAN PROBABLY GO ALONG WITH IT. THE HELICOPTERS WOULD BE STATIONED IN NORTHERN MOROCCO ON THE ALGERIAN BORDER. VANCE

SECRET

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PAGE 01 STATE 195596
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY IO/UNA:BJSHARP
APPROVED BY IO/UNA:JFTEFFT
S/S-O:DROBINSON

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O 032000Z AUG 78

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INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 9190

S E C R E T STATE 195596

EXDIS FOR AMB. YOUNG FROM UNA

FOLLOWING REPEAT OF STATE 195596 SENT ACTION PARIS INFO
NOUAKCHOTT RABAT ALGIERS MADRID AUG 3.

QUOTE: S E C R E T STATE 195596

EXDIS

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--WITH REGARD TO MAURITANIA THE MOROCCANS WERE PLAYING THEIR CARDS CLOSE TO THEIR CHEST. FOR EXAMPLE THE MOROCCANS DID NOT TELL US THEY KNEW THE MAURITANIANS WERE THINKING OF WITHDRAWING FROM THE SAHARA.

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UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

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